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IAP9 Rec'd PCT/PTO 24 MAY 2006

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| U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE | | | |
| INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT | | Docket Number: 12418/7 | |
| Application Number To Be Assigned | Filing Date Herewith | Examiner To Be Assigned | Art Unit To Be Assigned |
| Title METHOD FOR THE NON-DESTRUCTIVE TESTING OF AN ELEMENT FOR A NUCLEAR REACTOR | | Applicant(s) Philippe MAHE | |

Address to:
 Commissioner for Patents
 P.O. Box 1450
 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on:

Date: 5/22/06
 Signature: JM
 John M. Vereb (Reg. No. 48,912)

1. In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in conformance with the procedures of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98 and M.P.E.P. § 609, attorneys for Applicants hereby bring the following references to the attention of the Examiner. The references are listed on the attached modified PTO Form No. 1449. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that these references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.
2. The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement and the enclosed PTO Form No. 1449, shall not be construed as an admission that the information cited is prior art, or is considered to be material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b).
3. In accordance with the Official Gazette of August 5, 2003, which stated that the United States Patent and Trademark Office waived the requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98 (a)(2)(i) for submitting a copy of each cited U.S. patent and each U.S. patent application publication for all U.S. patent applications filed after June 30, 2003, copies of each of the cited U.S. patents and U.S. patent application publications are not being provided.

Dated: 5/22/06

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| INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANTS PTO FORM 1449 | ATTY. DOCKET NO. 12418/7 | SERIAL NO. TBA |
| | APPLICANT(s) Philippe MAHE | |
| | FILING DATE Herewith | GROUP TBA |

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| EXAMINER INITIAL | PATENT NUMBER | PATENT DATE | NAME | CLASS | SUBCLASS | FILING DATE |
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| EXAMINER INITIAL | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | COUNTRY | CLASS | SUBCLASS | TRANSLATION | |
|------------------|-----------------|---------|---------|-------|----------|-------------|----|
| | | | | | | YES | NO |
| | EP 0 597 639 | 5/18/94 | EP | | | | |
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OTHER DOCUMENTS

| EXAMINER INITIAL | AUTHOR, TITLE, DATE, PERTINENT PAGES, ETC. |
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| | Patent Abstracts of Japan, JP 2000249785, 9/14/2000; volume 2000, no. 12, Mitsubishi Nuclear Fuel Co. Ltd., "Inspecting Method and System for Atomic Nuclear Fuel Rod". |
| | "Image Analysis and Mathematical Morphology", Ac. Press, Vol. 1 (1982), Vol. 2 (1988). |
| | Jourlin and Pinoli, "A Model for logarithmic image processing", J. of Microscopy, Vol. 149, Pt. 1, January 1988, pp. 21-35. |

| EXAMINER | DATE CONSIDERED |
|---|-----------------|
| EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M.P.E.P. 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. | |